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Letter dated 6 March 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 5 March 2015 from the Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Mehmet Dânâ (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Y. Halit **Çevik**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 6 March 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing in response to the statement made by the Greek Cypriot representative in New York on 23 February 2015 during the open debate of the Security Council entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security: reflect on history, reaffirm the strong commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations".

It is disappointing that the Greek Cypriot side continues to exploit international platforms to blatantly distort the factual and historical realities in Cyprus. To set the record straight, it should be noted that none of the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus refer to the legitimate presence of Turkish troops in the island as "occupation". As is well known, Turkey, Greece and the United Kingdom are guarantors in Cyprus under the 1960 international treaties on Cyprus. The military intervention of Turkey in 1974 was carried out in this context to thwart the Greek junta's attempt, carried out in collaboration with Greek Cypriot armed elements, to annex Cyprus to Greece (Enosis) and stop mass atrocities against Turkish Cypriots.

We note that the Greek Cypriot representative attempted to exploit lofty ideals such as decolonization and the joint contribution of Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots to allied forces during the Second World War in order to create a smoke screen for the discriminatory and aggressive policies pursued by the Greek Cypriot side against Turkish Cypriots.

The Charter of the United Nations is the torchlight of Turkish Cypriots and we expect nothing more than the full implementation of and respect for the values enshrined therein. The Greek Cypriot representative's unscrupulous citation of the Charter cannot veil the fact that, since 1963, the Greek Cypriot administration has been persistently following a hostile policy towards Turkish Cypriots, the sole aim of which is to deny them the tenets of the Charter, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

It should not be forgotten that the Security Council, the body responsible for the maintenance of international peace and security, was compelled to send a peacekeeping force to Cyprus in 1964 (i.e. the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus) as Turkish Cypriots were under premeditated and organized armed attacks and their very existence in Cyprus was in grave danger.

The Greek Cypriot administration should be reminded that only by adhering to the values of the Charter, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, can the Cyprus problem be solved taking into consideration the legitimate rights and interests of the both peoples of the island.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to call on the Greek Cypriot side to discontinue its well-known propaganda tactics and return to the negotiating table without any preconditions, as also called for in the latest Security Council resolution on Cyprus (2197 (2015)), so that a fair, durable and comprehensive settlement can be achieved through the good offices role of the mission in Cyprus without further delay. We, the Turkish Cypriot side, are committed to maintaining

our constructive and positive stance and encourage our Greek Cypriot neighbours to follow a similar path.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mehmet **Dânâ**
Representative